

Message Text

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46

ACTION IO-10

INFO OCT-01 ISO-00 IOE-00 SSO-00 NSCE-00 USIE-00 INRE-00

AID-05 CIAE-00 COME-00 EB-07 FRB-03 INR-07 NSAE-00

USIA-06 TRSE-00 XMB-02 OPIC-03 SP-02 CIEP-01 LAB-04

SIL-01 OMB-01 NSC-05 SS-15 STR-04 CEA-01 AGR-05 L-02

H-02 PRS-01 PA-01 AF-06 ARA-06 EA-06 EUR-12 NEA-09

OIC-02 /130 W

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O R 051723Z MAY 75

FM USMISSION GENEVA

TO SECSTATE WASHED IMMEDIATE 2630

INFO AMEMBASSY BERN

AMEMBASSY BONN

AMEMBASSY BRUSSELS

AMEMBASSY CANBERRA

AMEMBASSY COPENHAGEN

AMEMBASSY DUBLIN

AMEMBASSY HELSINKI

AMEMBASSY LONDON

AMEMBASSY OSLO

AMEMBASSY OTTAWA

AMEMBASSY PARIS

AMEMBASSY ROME

AMEMBASSY STOCKHOLM

AMEMBASSY THE HAGUE

AMEMBASSY TOKYO

USUN NEW YORK 1645

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ROME FOR FODAG

E.O. 11652: NA

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TAGS: EGEN EAGR WFC EAID

SUBJ: INFORMAL MEETING PRIOR TO CONSULTATION ON PROPOSED IFAD,
GENEVA, MAY 5-6

REF: ROME 6373

1. WHILE NOT POSED AS A SPECIFIC DIRECT QUESTION AT THE MEETING, IN COURSE OF INFORMAL CONVERSATIONS MAY 4 RETARDING POSITION TRADITIONAL DONORS CONCERNING THE ESTABLISHMENT OF PROPOSED INTERNATIONAL FUND FOR AGRICULTURAL DEVELOPMENT (IFAD), IT BECAME APPARENT THAT SEVERAL DELEGATIONS PRESENT (I.E. AUSTRALIA, CANADA, UK, NETHERLANDS) HAD PREVIOUSLY RECEIVED SEPARATE REPORTS FROM ROME CONCERNING SUBSTANCE OF APRIL 30 BRIEFING BY HANNAH. SPECIFICALLY, THESE REPORTS CONFIRMED SUBSTANCE OF PARA (E) REFTEL TO EFFECT THAT HANNAH STATED HE RECEIVED GENERAL AGREEMENT ON POSSIBLE U.S. CONTRIBUTION OF 37-39 PERCENT, OR ABOUT \$200 MILLION PER YEAR FOR THREE YEARS.

2. USDEL WENT TO CONSIDERABLE LENGTHS TO TEMPER HANNAH VERSION OF WHITE HOUSE MEETING ALTHOUGH AT SAME TIME EXPLAINING THAT U.S. WAS GENERALLY SYMPATHETIC TO NEED OF LDCS FOR SUBSTANTIAL ADDITIONAL RESOURCES FOR AGRICULTURAL DEVELOPMENT. IN PARTICULAR, USDEL SOUGHT VIEWS ON POSITION OF OTHER POTENTIAL DONORS AT MAY 5-6 MEETING. REACTION OF DELS WHICH CO-SPONSORED RESOLUTION XIII WAS ONE OF MILD DISAPPOINTMENT SINCE IT WAS RECOGNIZED THAT CIRCLE COULD ONLY BE BROKEN BY A MAJOR COUNTRY SHOWING WILLINGNESS TO COMMIT ITSELF UNCONDITIONALLY.

3. LENGTHY AND USEFUL DISCUSSION ENSUED WHICH CLARIFIED VIEWS OF MANY DELS PRESENT REGARDING AGENDA OF MAY 5-6 CONSULTATION. UNITED KINGDOM, FOLLOWED BY JAPAN, CANADA, AUSTRALIA, SWITZERLAND, AND NEW ZEALAND WERE OF THE GENERAL VIEW THAT IT WAS USELESS TO TALK OF ADMINISTRATIVE AND ORGANIZATIONAL DETAILS OF THE PROPOSED FUND WITHOUT FIRST DETERMINING WHICH DONORS, IF ANY, WERE READY TO CONTRIBUTE ADDITIONAL FUNDS. MOST OF THESE DELEGATIONS BELIEVED A NEW FUND WAS DESIRABLE IF IT LED TO SUBSTANTIAL ADDITIONAL (I.E. OPEC) FINANCING FOR AGRICULTURAL DEVELOPMENT; OTHERWISE IT WAS AGREED THAT LIMITED OFFICIAL USE

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EXISTING INSTITUTIONS WERE ADEQUATE. THIS POSTURE WAS ROUGHLY SIMILAR TO US POSITION. ON THE EXTREMES, NETHERLANDS MAINTAINED THAT NO MULTILATERAL INSTITUTION CURRENTLY EXISTED DEVOTED EXCLUSIVELY TO AGRICULTURAL DEVELOPMENT AND THEREFORE, AS ONE OF SPONSORS OF WFC RESOLUTION XIII, NETHERLANDS WAS READY TO CONTRIBUTE ADDITIONAL FUNDS TO SUCH AN INSTITUTION. FRG DELEGATION, HOWEVER, SAID IT WAS OPPOSED IN PRINCIPLE TO CREATION OF

A NEW FUND.

4. CANADIAN DEL ASSERTED THAT PURPOSE OF MAY 5-6 CONSULTATION WAS TO DETERMINE WHETHER THERE WAS A BASIS FOR COMMITMENTS BY NEW AND TRADITIONAL DONORS TO THE IFAD. ASSUMING SUCH COMMITMENTS REACHED SOME THRESHOLD LEVEL (STILL TO BE DETERMINED) A PLEDGING CONFERENCE MIGHT BE CALLED IN OCTOBER. THE UNKNOWN FACTOR CONTINUED TO BE THE POSITION OF THE OPEC COUNTRIES. NONE OF THE DELEGATIONS PRESENT HAD ANY DEFINITE INFORMATION, ALTHOUGH MOST SUSPECTED THAT OPEC WOULD INSIST ON MATCHING CONDITIONS FOR ANY ANNOUNCED COMMITMENTS.

5. USDEL EXPLAINED THAT MATCHING CONDITIONS WERE UNACCEPTABLE TO U.S., PRIMARILY BECUASE US IS ALREADY SHOULDERING MAJOR SHARE OF THE BURDEN AND THIS IS NOT ON AN EQUAL FOOTING WITH "NEW " DONORS. NOT WISHING TO UNDERMINE EFFORTS OF OTHERS, HOWEVER, U.S. HOPED THAT A FLEXIBLE FORMULA COULD BE FOUND WHICH WOULD PERMIT GOVERNMENTS TO ATTRIBUTE INCREMENTAL AMOUNTS OF EXISTING BILATERAL AND/OR MULTILATERAL EFFORTS OVER A BASE PERIOD TO THE FUND.

6. GIVEN DIVERSITY OF POSITIONS OF VARIOUS DELS DESCRIBED ABOVE IT WAS ACKNOWLEDGED THAT OUTCOME MAY 5-6 MEETING WOULD TURN ON SILL AND INGENUITY OF CHAIRMAN TO FIND A MEETING OF THE MINDS WHICH WOULD RESULT IN BREAKING THE CIRCLE DESCRIBED EARLIER. USDEL WILL MEET WITH HANNAH EARLY MAY 5 AND PRESENT FULL US BRIEF CONCERNING IFAD.

7. SINCE ABOVE WAS DRAFTED, FIRST HALF DAY OF IFAD CONSULTATION HAS BEEN COMPLETED. THERE ARE UNTOWARD SIGNS THAT WORLD FOOD COUNCIL SECRETARIAT SISPUSHING STRONGLY LIMITED OFFICIAL USE

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FOR FORMATION OF A WORKING GROUP REGARDLESS OF WHETHER CONDITIONS OF PARA 6, RESOLUTION XIII ARE EXPLICITLY MET. ONLY A MINORITY OF DELEGATIONS PRESENT SPOKE DURING MORNING SESSION (INCLUDING INDIA, BANGLADESH, PAKISTAN, AMONG THE DEVELOPING COUNTRIES AND SWEDEN, AUSTRALIA, CANADA, NEW ZEALAND AND UNITED STATES IN DEVELOPED COUNTRY GROUP), FROM OPEC GROUP, ONLY VENEZUELA AND SAUDI ARABIA SPOKE, MAKING ONLY GENERAL PRONOUNCEMENT OF WILLINGNESS TO CONTRIBUTE ADDITIONAL FUNDS TO A NEW INSTITUTION. THEY DID NOT MENTION A SPECIFIC FIGURE AND VENEZUELAN ADDED THAT HE WAS "CONFIDENT THAT GOOD WILL OF OPEC COUNTRIES WOULD BE MATCHED BY DEVELOPED COUNTRIES". AUSTRALIA AND NEW ZEALAND INDICATED THEY WERE PREPARED TO CONTRIBUTE TO THE FUND, BUT THE UNITED STATES AND SWEDEN EMPHASIZED PRE-CONDITIONS IN PARA 6 OF RES XIII.

NEVERTHELESS, HANNAH IN HIS ROLE AS CHAIRMAN, DREW THE
CONCLUSION DURING SUMMING UP THAT THERE HAD BEEN
"UNANIMOUS ENDORSEMENT" OF NEED FOR THE FUND. U.S.
WILL NOW MEET WITH GROUP B COUNTRIES TO CONSULT ON
WHERE WE STAND IN LIGHT OF ABOVE. ABRAMS

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